

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am not recorded on the following votes because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on Roll Call No. 228 on passage of H.R. 7995, I would have voted YEA; on Roll Call No. 229 on motion to adjourn, I would have voted YEA; on Roll Call No. 230 on ordering the previous question for H. Res. 1244, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 231 on agreeing to the resolution for H. Res. 1244, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 232 on passage of H.R. 1380, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 233 on passage of S. 2981, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 234 on motion to recommit with instructions for H.R. 3884, I would have voted YEA; and on Roll Call No. 235 on passage of H.R. 3884, I would have voted NAY.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL GIFT SHOP TAX ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the Federal Gift Shop Tax Act, which would allow state and local governments to impose a sales tax on purchases at gift shops on federal property. These governments would be able to generate millions of dollars in new revenue at a time when they are struggling to meet their budgets because of the economic crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

When the federal government engages in activity that is not inherently governmental, such as operating a gift shop, there is no reason to exempt customer purchases from a sales tax. The items sold at federal gift shops, such as jewelry, apparel, accessories, games, books and decor, would be subject to sales tax if sold on private property. Customers are often unaware of this sales tax exemption when shopping at gift shops on federal property, so the introduction of a sales tax is unlikely to have a significant impact on gift shop sales. It would, however, create a valuable revenue stream for struggling governments. In addition, state and local governments often provide uncompensated services to federal property, such as fire service, and allowing them to impose a sales tax on gift shops would allow them to recoup some of those costs. This bill is of particular importance to the District of Columbia, as it is home to a number of gift shops on federal property, such as at the Smithsonian Institution, the National Gallery of Art and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

State and local governments have taken the lead in combating the pandemic, meeting the moment with expanded services and support even as they lose significant revenue. This bill would give these governments an opportunity to make up a portion of their budget shortfalls by creating this new revenue stream.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE PRESIDENT DR. SHIRLEY A. REED

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor South Texas College Founding President Dr. Shirley Reed. Dr. Reed has retired after more than 26 years serving as the founding President of South Texas College.

I first met Dr. Shirley Reed in the middle of a dusty field in Rio Grande City for the groundbreaking of South Texas College's Stan County campus. Even though the wind was raising the dust and getting into our eyes, both of us were excited about the opportunities this new campus would bring for students and our community. Dr. Reed invited me to speak at this groundbreaking ceremony because as Chairman of the Education Subcommittee on Appropriations in the Texas State Legislature, I secured funding for fast-growing colleges throughout Texas, including South Texas College. Since then, we have been working together to fund projects that advance access to quality education for the people of South Texas.

South Texas College was founded back in 1993 and Dr. Reed was selected as its founding President. At that time, it was known as South Texas Community College and had about 1,000 students enrolled. However, through her steady leadership it grew into a multi-campus college with an enrollment of just under 30,000 students. It is also recognized as the only community college in the State of Texas to offer 5 baccalaureate degrees. This was all accomplished despite the considerable doubt and obstacles that she faced when she was working towards her vision for the school. Now, she is a source of inspiration and a reminder of what can be accomplished through hard work and dedication.

I want to congratulate Dr. Reed on her tenure at South Texas College. Her passion, hard work, and leadership has created a revered education institution, driving regional and economic prosperity in the region. As we move forward, let us take the time to appreciate President Reed and all the educators who dedicate their lives to preparing the next generation for their futures. However, in the words of President John F. Kennedy, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the career and service of Dr. Reed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on December 7th and 8th due to not being in D.C. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YES on Roll Call No. 236; YES on Roll Call No. 237; NO on Roll Call No. 238, and YES on Roll Call No. 239.

TRIBUTE TO DR. VICTOR A. TRIANFO

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the service of Victor A. Trianfo, Jr., D.O. Dr. Trianfo is retiring as Chief Medical Officer of Memorial Health in Marysville, Ohio, after more than two decades with that organization.

Dr. Trianfo's time at Memorial Health began in 1999. For the last ten years, he has served in various administrative roles there, including as Vice President of Medical Affairs and Quality. He took on CMO responsibilities in 2013, helping to oversee the medical staff, guide case management and home health, and lead important philanthropy programs that have allowed the system to grow with the needs of the area.

Dr. Trianfo is widely praised as Memorial Health's biggest advocate, spearheading a partnership with The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center to improve the delivery of cardiac care to Union County residents. His work to coordinate coronavirus response efforts with the Union County Health Department is a model to health care leaders everywhere.

Dr. Trianfo earned his medical degree at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, having previously earned a nursing degree and working as a travel nurse, a flight and trauma nurse, and a prison nurse. He was chief resident of family medicine at The Ohio State University, where he also served as Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Residency Director. He and his wife, Susan, are the parents of three adult children.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am proud to join in the accolades to Dr. Trianfo for his 43 years of fine service to the medical profession. We wish him and his family every success as they move to a new chapter in their lives.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.